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## GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE AND MAPS.

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### BOOK NOTICES.

**Wie wandere ich nach Deutschen Kolonien aus? Ratgeber für Auswanderungslustige. Von Dr. Oscar Bongard.** Second Edition. 71 pp., Illustrations from Photographs and Index. Wilhelm Süsserott, Berlin, 1908. Price, 60 pf.

The book is packed with information and advice for intending settlers in the African colonies of Germany. The well-known author has travelled extensively in these colonies, and his book covers all phases of information of importance to the settlers, from the outfitting for the journey and the diseases of Africa to the various fields in which the emigrant may hope to find suitable openings and succeed in making a new home for his family. He sets forth the dangers that are to be avoided and the hardships that are inseparable from pioneer life under entirely new conditions. One of the pictures shows a native herdsman wearing a silk hat while tending his cattle. Dr. Bongard has faith in the practicability and the advantage of white colonization in many selected districts of the colonies.

**A Naturalist in Tasmania. By Geoffrey Smith, M.A.** 151 pp., Illustrations, Index and Map in Colours. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1909. Price, \$2.50.

A charming book both for the specialist and the general reader. It is not too much to say that the atmosphere of the volume and the impression it makes suggests Bates's "A Naturalist on the River Amazons." The author has imagination that gives warmth and interest to every page; but he is also a naturalist; and a writer who has both imagination and the endowment and training of the scientist can write books that are useful to the scholar as well as edifying and pleasing to the public. Mr. Smith's topic is an Australian island a little larger than Wales and smaller than Ireland. Tasmania has inexhaustible interest and great natural riches. Its early days afford unusual material, and the author has well sketched the pioneer explorations, the founding of Hobart, the wild and adventurous times of the bushranger, the characteristics and the final extinction of the aborigines. Hobart and the Midlands, English in their appearance, with rich cultivation and pasturage, the mountains, table-lands, lakes, forests and coasts are all described; and the pages, after the historical chapter, tell of the life of the settlers, the scenery, the vegetation, the characteristic fauna, the wild animals of the bush, poisonous snakes, etc. In the concluding chapter, the author discusses the survival of ancient types of animals and plants, the derivation of the fauna, the former connection with South America and New Zealand through an Antarctic continent, the separation of Tasmania from Australia and special Tasmanian problems. The photographs and drawings, many of them by the author, are good, and the geological map is from that made by the Lands and Surveys Department.